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ATTORNEY FOR SKY HARBOR AIR SERVICE, INC., A WYOMING CORPORATION, H. PAUL MARTIN

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

## FOR THE DISTRICT OF WYOMING

SKY HARBOR AIR SERVICE, INC., A Wyoming Corporation, H. Paul Martin	)	
Plaintiffs-Counter-Defendants,	)	
v.	)	Civil Action No. 08-CV 150 D
SHELLY REAMS, individual, CHEYENNE	)	
REGIONAL AIRPORT BOARD, a Wyoming	)	
Corporation, SCOTT HINDERMAN, in his	)	
individual and official capacity, JAMES	)	
JAGUSCH, in his individual and official	)	
capacity, WILLIAM L. HICKMAN, in his	)	
individual and official capacity, KEVIN	)	
PAINTER, in his individual and official capacity,	)	
DAVE HARING, in his individual and official	)	
capacity, GREAT LAKES AVIATION, LTD	)	
d/b/a/ GREAT LAKES AIRLINES, JOHN DOES	)	
One through Five, in their individual and official	)	
capacities,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR RULE 54(b) CERTIFICATION

Plaintiffs, by and through the undersigned counsel, hereby request this Court certify an appeal to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 54(b) regarding the May 27, 2010 Order on Motions for Summary Judgment. The May 27, 2010 Order granted summary judgment to Defendants on both Plaintiffs' claims and on Defendant's counterclaim. Fed. R. Civ. P. 54(b) authorizes the Court to enter "final judgment as to one or more, but fewer than all, claims or parties only if the court expressly determines that there is no just reason for delay." <u>Jordan v. Pugh</u>, 425 F.3d 820, 826 (10<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2005). <u>See, e.g.</u>, 10 Charles Alan Wright, Arthur R. Miller & Mary Kay Kane, Fed. Practice & Proc. § 2656, at 48-60 (3d ed.1998). <u>See also Curtiss-Wright Corp. v. Gen. Elec. Co.</u>, 446 U.S. 1, 7, 100 S.Ct. 1460, 64 L.Ed.2d 1 (1980) quoting <u>Sears</u>, Roebuck & Co. v. Mackey, 351 U.S. 427, 436, 76 S.Ct. 895, 100 L.Ed. 1297 (1956).

Rule 54(b) certification is appropriate when the district court makes two express written determinations. First, the district court must determine that its judgment is final. Second, the court must determine that no just reason for delay of entry of its judgment exists. Stockman's Water Co., LLC v. Vaca Partners, L.P., 425 F.3d 1263, 1265 (10th Cir. 2005). The Rule 54(b) order must have a written explanation supporting each determination.

In determining whether the judgment is final, the District Court should consider the following factors: 1) whether the claims proposed for appellate review are separable from the others remaining to be adjudicated, and 2) whether the nature of the claims already determined are such that no appellate court would have to decide the same issues more than once even if there were subsequent appeals. Stockman's Water Co., LLC, 425 F.3d at 1265.

The mere presence of counterclaims does not render a Rule 54(b) certification inappropriate, for "[i]f it did, Rule 54(b) would lose much of its utility." <u>Cold Metal Process Co. v. United Engineering & Foundry Co.</u>, 351 U.S. 445, 452 (1956) (counterclaims, whether compulsory or permissive, present no special problems for Rule 54(b) determinations; counterclaims are not to be evaluated differently from other claims.) Where, as here, the counterclaims are severable from the claims which were determined in terms of both the factual and the legal issues involved, certification is appropriate under Rule 54(b). Id.

Counsel for Plaintiffs e-mailed Counsel for all Defendants regarding this request.

Counsel for Defendant Airport states that he does not oppose an appeal of the May 27,

2010 decision to the Tenth Circuit Court at this time but would not consent to a stay of a

determination on the counterclaim damages; counsel for Plaintiffs was not able to reach

counsel for Defendant Reams and counsel for Defendant Great Lakes prior to this

Motion.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court grant its Motion for Fed.R.Civ.P. 54(b) Certification and issue the appropriate written Order. A Memorandum is filed in support of this Motion on even date herewith.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this  $23^{\rm rd}$  day of July, 2010.

/s/Karen Budd-Falen

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, the undersigned, certify that I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing Plaintiffs' Motion for Rule 54(b) Certification, to be served as specified below on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of July, 2010 to the following:

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